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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/21/2007

SPONSOR Feldman LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE New Mexico-Grown Produce For School Lunches SB 90

ANALYST McOlash

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$1,440.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to House Bill 264

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA)

New Mexico Department of Health (DOH)

New Mexico Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 90 appropriates \$1,440,000 from the General Fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University for the New Mexico Department of Agriculture for expenditure in FY08 and subsequent fiscal years to purchase New Mexico-grown fresh fruits and vegetables and to administer a program ensuring that such fresh fruits and vegetables are delivered to school lunch programs statewide

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$1.44 million contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert to the General Fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Senate Bill 90 is supported by the New Mexico Task Force to End Hunger. A goal in both the Department of Health Strategic Plan and the Governor’s Performance and Accountability Contract “A Healthy New Mexico” is to reduce child and adolescent obesity and diabetes in all populations. and vegetables. The essence of this bill has been presented to the Legislative Finance Committee and is a priority of the Rural Economic Development and Telecommunications Legislative Interim Committee as well as the Health and Human Services Legislative Interim Committee.

Funds for this program are supported by Governor Richardson, but at the level of \$965,500.

RELATIONSHIP

Senate Bill 90 relates to House Bill 264 which provides for expenditures only in FY08 and the reversion of unexpended or unencumbered balances at the end of FY 2008.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has piloted a similar program, entitled the USDA Fruit and Vegetable Pilot Program. Almost all schools participating in USDA’s Fruit and Vegetable Pilot Program (FVPP) consider the program to be very successful and would like the pilot to continue. The Nutrition Title of the 2002 Farm Act provided \$6 million to the FVPP for the 2002-2003 school years to improve fruit and vegetable consumption among the Nation’s school children. The FVPP provided fresh and dried fruits and fresh vegetables free to children in 107 elementary and secondary schools, including seven schools in the Zuni Indian Tribal Organization in New Mexico.

BM/nt:csd